What is claimed is:

1.   A method for central coordination of data
transmission between a transmitting network element and
5   a receiving network element, comprising:
        requesting a converter service from a converter
coordinator using the transmitting or receiving network
element;
        selecting the converter service using the
10   converter coordinator and
        performing a data conversion on the data,
wherein
        the transmitting and receiving network elements
do not have compatible data or transmission formats.
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2.   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
transmitting and/or receiving network element is a
terminal.

20   3.   The method as claimed in patent claim 1, wherein
the transmitting and/or receiving network element is an
application.

4.   The method   as   claimed   in   claim   1,   further
25   comprising:
        sending a report via the converter service to the
network element which produced the request.

5.   The method   as   claimed   in   claim   1,   further
30   comprising:
        sending a report via the converter service to
the transmitting network element, to the receiving
network element and to the selected conversion service.

35   6.   The method   as   claimed   claim   1,   wherein   the
report   includes   information   about   the   interchange

format to be used by the transmitting and receiving network elements.

7. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein data is transmitted between the transmitting and receiving network elements via the converter without any further action by the converter coordinator.

8. An apparatus for central coordination of data transmission between a transmitting network element and a receiving network element, comprising:

at least one converter which is registered; and

at least one transmitting or receiving network element which receives a request for a converter service, wherein

the apparatus selects one of the at least one registered converters.

9. The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the selected registered converter is sent as a response to the requesting network element.

10. The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the selected registered converter is sent as a response to relevant network elements.